

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are all the claims pending in the application.

As a formal matter, the Examiner requires that Figs. 1 and 2 be labeled as “Prior Art”. In this regard, Applicant notes that Figs. 1 and 2 illustrate an example of a base station transmission and a composition of the base station transmission, as described in the Description of the Related Arts portion of the specification. Accordingly, Applicant submits herewith substitute drawings - Figs. 1 and 2 labeled as “Related Art”. The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve these substitute drawings.

The Examiner indicates that claims 12, 13, 20 and 21 are allowed. However, the Examiner rejects, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claim 1 as being unpatentable over Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art as described on pages 1-3 of the specification (AAPA) in view of Yoneyama, and claims 2-11 and 14-17 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Yoneyama and Brison et al. (Brison).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner’s prior art rejections as follows.

Applicant’s claim 1 provides a method of acquiring slot timing when synchronizing a communication receiver with transmissions of a base station comprising a unique combination of method steps including, *inter alia*, repetitively correlating a synchronization code received over a radio channel with a synchronization code stored in the receiver, assigning, at each repetitive correlation, a value to resulting peaks, ranking the resulting peaks according to the assigned values, and selecting peaks with highest ranking for slot timing.

The Examiner acknowledges that “AAPA does not disclose assigning a value to the correlation peaks and further ranking the assigned peaks”, but alleges that Yoneyama supplies this acknowledged deficiency of AAPA (see Office Action, page 3). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Yoneyama discloses a slot timing detection method and circuit where:

First of all, an A/D converter 8 converts data from an RF/IF section 21 into 8-bit digital data 4. A correlation detection section 9 calculates the correlation values between the digital data 4 and short codes and outputs the calculated values as the correlation results 44 (step 81). The power calculation section 11 converts the correlation results 44 into power values (step 82). The upper N values detecting section 12 holds only upper N data (up to sixth data in FIG. 9) of the power values (step 83). When the above operation is performed for all the data at 10,240 points (step 84), the Nth data in the upper N values detecting section 12 is output as a threshold to the base value calculation section 13. The base value calculation section 13 accumulates the thresholds and stores the resultant data as a base value (step 85). (Id., col. 9, lines 3-16.)

Contrary to the Examiner’s analysis, Yoneyama does not perform any ranking of the power values obtained in any of its steps (including steps 82 and 83 cited by the Examiner), instead Yoneyama’s upper N values detecting section 12 simply detects and holds “only upper N data of the power values”. Subsequent to detection and extraction of the upper N data:

the average calculation section 7 performs the following processing for each of the N data extracted by the upper N values detecting section 12.

First of all, it is checked whether data at the corresponding point is stored in the storage section 1 (step 86). If it is determined that the data is stored, the currently obtained value is added to the value stored at the point to generate data 1 (step 87). If it is determined in step 86 that the data is not stored in the storage section 1, the base value stored in the base

value calculation section 13 is added to the currently obtained value to generate data 2 (step 88).
(Id., col. 9, lines 17-28.)

Thus, Yoneyama does not disclose, teach or suggest ranking its upper N data of the power values, either during or after the extraction thereof.

Accordingly, Applicant's claim 1 would not have been obvious from any reasonable combination of AAPA and Yoneyama at least for this reason.

With regard to Applicant's dependent claims 2-11 and 14-17 (which incorporate, by reference, all the novel and unobvious features of their base claim 1) , Brison does not supply the teaching lacking in the combination of AAPA and Yoneyama as noted above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant's dependent claims 2-11 and 14-17 would not have been obvious from any reasonable combination of AAPA, Yoneyama and Brison at least for this reason.

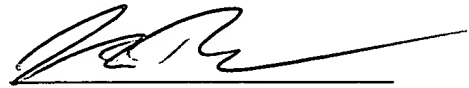
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No.: 09/801,697

Atty Dkt No. Q63544

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Stan Torgovitsky
Registration No. 43,958

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 4, 2004